"I am pleased that Kern schools will receive this funding to further safeguard our children's schools," said Costa. "Providing a safe educational environment for Valley kids is vital to ensuring that our schools can prepare students for college and beyond. Improving our schools is key to our Valley's economic future and today's announcement is another step in the right direction."

In reviewing and improving their plans, schools will work with community partners including, local law enforcement, public safety or emergency management, public health, and mental health agencies and local government. Response plans will include training for school staff, a plan to sustain local partnerships, and a plan for communicating policies and reunification procedures to parents.